

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

How can we preach
Democracy around the
world when here, AT
HOME, millions of
Americans are
beginning to feel
the pain of being
RESTRICTED in our
choices? How dare
Bush call this
wonderful country
"AMERICA, THE FREE"

when we have a
would-be dictator,
Mr. Bush, pushing
his weight around,
and ALLOWING THE
AMERICAN GOVERNMENT
TO DISGRACE ITSELF
by imposing it's
distorted will upon
us, WE, THE PEOPLE?
Our freedom is being
eroded at an
alarminig pace: the
surveying of our
mail, the tapping of
our phones, the law
requiring our
friendly libraries
to REPORT ITS
PATRONS when a
"supposedly
controverisal
material" is checked
out...and now, to
add insult to
injury, WE ARE BEING
FORCED TO YELD to
Sinclair; we are
being FORCED to
allow the pre-emption
of regular
programming, so that
Sinclair can IMPOSE
UPON US the
vitriolic message
this current
president wants to
send to US, WE, THE
PEOPLE who elected
him (or not!)

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free

of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard.

I respectfully ask that you please read this message, and not allow this current administration to turn OUR DEMOCRACY into a sugar-coated CONTROLLED DICTATORSHIP.

Thank you.

Rifkah wilhelm